

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for planning a delivery of a good, comprising:
 - receiving a description of the good, a destination location, and a requested delivery date;
 - selecting a source location comprising an origin for the good based on an availability date of the good at the source location, the availability date determined independently of the requested delivery date;
 - determining a set of trips based on a set of geographic routes, transportation service provider information, and scheduling information;
 - selecting a trip from the set of trips based on a set of criteria; and scheduling the trip such that the good is scheduled to be delivered from the source location to the destination location substantially close to the requested delivery date.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining a set of trips comprises selecting one or more geographic routes from the set of geographic routes.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein selecting one or more geographical routes comprises restricting the set of geographical routes based on a geographical classification for the source location and the destination location.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining a set of trips comprises selecting a transportation service provider for each geographic route.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of criteria comprises at least one criterion representative of dangerous goods.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of criteria comprises at least one criterion representative of closeness of a trip delivery date to the requested delivery date.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of criteria comprises at least one criterion representative of cost information.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of criteria comprises at least one criterion representative of customer information.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of criteria comprises at least one criterion representative of the availability date.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the set of criteria comprises at least one criterion representative of a trip departure date, on which the trip can depart from the source location, and wherein scheduling comprises confirming the trip if the availability date precedes or matches the trip departure date.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein scheduling further comprises selecting, if the trip is not confirmed, another trip based on the availability date and the trip departure date.

12. (Currently Amended) A system for planning the delivery of a good, the system comprising:

a central processing unit;

a customer interface process configured for execution by the central processing unit, the customer interface process comprising instructions for receiving

description of the good, a destination location, and a requested delivery date, and for selecting a source location comprising an origin for the good based on an availability date of the good at the source location, the availability date determined independently of the requested delivery date and;

a scheduling process initiated by the customer interface process comprising instructions for:

initiating a route generation process comprising instructions for determining a set of trips based on a set of geographic routes, transportation service provider information, and scheduling information, wherein each trip comprises a trip departure date and a trip delivery date;

selecting a trip from the set of trips based on a set of criteria; and scheduling the trip such that the good is scheduled to be delivered from the source location to the destination location substantially close to the requested delivery date.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the route generation process further comprises instructions for selecting at least one geographic route from the set of geographic routes.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the route generation process further comprises instructions for restricting the set of geographical routes based on a geographical classification for the source location and the destination location.

15. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the route generation process further comprises instructions for selecting transportation service provider information and scheduling information corresponding to the set of geographic routes.

16. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the route generation process further comprises instructions for checking the set of trips for compliance with the set of criteria, the set of criteria including at least one criterion representative of dangerous goods.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the set of criteria comprises at least one criterion representative of closeness of the trip delivery date to the requested delivery date.

18. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the set of criteria comprises at least one criterion representative of cost information.

19. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the set of criteria comprises at least one criterion representative of customer information.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the set of criteria comprises at least one criterion representative of the availability date.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the set of criteria comprises at least one criterion representative of a trip departure date, on which the trip can depart from the source location, and wherein the customer interface process further comprises instructions for confirming the trip if the availability date precedes or matches the trip departure date.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the customer interface process further comprises instructions for initiating, if the trip is not confirmed, the scheduling process to select another trip based on the availability date and the trip departure date.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions to configure a data processor to perform a method for planning a delivery of a good, the method comprising:

receiving a description of the good, a destination location, and a requested delivery date;
selecting a source location comprising an origin for the good based on an availability date of the good at the source location, the availability date determined independently of the requested delivery date;
determining a set of trips based on a set of geographic routes, transportation service provider information, and scheduling information;
selecting a trip from the set of trips based on a set of criteria; and
scheduling the trip such that the good is scheduled to be delivered from the source location to the destination location substantially close to the requested delivery date.

24. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

means for receiving a description of a good, a destination location, and a requested delivery date;
means for selecting a source location comprising an origin for the good based on an availability date of the good at the source location, the availability date determined independently of the requested delivery date;
means for determining a set of trips based on a set of geographic routes, transportation service provider information, and scheduling information, wherein each trip comprises a trip departure date and a trip delivery date;
means for selecting a trip from the set of trips based on a set of criteria; and
means for scheduling the trip such that the good is scheduled to be delivered from the source location to the destination location substantially close to the requested delivery date.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for planning a delivery of a good comprising:

receiving sales order information, the sales order information including a description of the good, a destination location, a requested delivery date; selecting a source location comprising an origin for the good based on an availability date for the good at the source location, the availability date determined independently of the requested delivery date;
determining a set of trips based on a set of geographic routes, transportation service provider information, and the availability date of the good at the source location;
selecting a trip from the set of trips based on a set of criteria; and scheduling the trip based on the availability date.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25 further comprising:
eliminating trips based on dangerous good data.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising:
receiving an instruction for planning the delivery of the good as a rush order, wherein planning comprises determining, selecting and scheduling the trip forward from the availability date.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25, further comprising:
updating the sales order information with one or more dates corresponding to the scheduled trip.

30. (Currently Amended) A method for planning a delivery of a good, comprising:

receiving sales order information, the sales order information including a

description of the good, a destination location, and a requested delivery date;
selecting a source location comprising an origin for the good based on an availability date of the good at the source location, the availability date determined independently of the requested delivery date;
determining a set of trips based on a set of geographic routes, transportation service provider information, and the requested delivery date;
selecting a trip from the set of trips based on a set of criteria; and
scheduling back from the requested delivery date, such that the good is scheduled to be delivered from the source location to the destination location substantially close to the requested delivery date.